

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/094 W

-----071150Z 098443 /20

R 070900Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6763

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 5008

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: JA, CH, EEWT, PFOR

SUBJECT: FONOFF COMMENTS ON DOKO MISSION TO CHINA

REF: TOKYO 4657

SUMMARY: IN MARKED CONTRAST WITH JAPANESE
FISHING NEGOTIATORS IN MOSCOW, KEIDANREN PRESIDENT DOKO
MET FRIENDLY RECEPTION IN PEKING AND RETURNED WITH
UNEXPECTED CHINESE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO LONG-TERM
NON-GOVERNMENTAL TRADE ACCORD. COMPARISON WAS NOT
LOST ON SOVIETS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF APRIL 6, FONOFF CHINA
DEPDIR IKEDA OBSERVED THAT GOJ PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF
RECENT BUSINESS MISSION TO PRC HEADED BY KEIDANREN
PRESIDENT TOSHIO DOKO. CENTERPIECE OF MISSION, WHICH
HAS RECEIVED PROMINENT TOKYO PRESS PLAY, WAS UNEXPECTED
CHINESE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO NEGOTIATION OF
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LONG-TERM NON-GOVERNMENTAL TRADE ACCORD WITH JAPAN.

2. IKEDA EXPLAINED THAT UNDER PROPOSED PRIVATE
TRADE AGREEMENT, CHINA WOULD PROVIDE OIL AND COAL IN
RETURN FOR JAPANESE STEEL, CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL AND
VARIOUS PLANTS INCLUDING POWER-GENERATING FACILITIES,
WHICH WOULD BE USED IN TURN TO EXPAND CHINESE OIL AND

COAL PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES. CAUTIONING THAT AGREEMENT WAS "STILL IN A TENTATIVE STAGE," IKEDA NOTED THAT NUMBER OF DETAILS -- DURATION OF AGREEMENT, ANNUAL TARGET LEVELS OF CHINESE EXPORTS, TERMS OF PAYMENT, ETC -- REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT. AGREEMENT WOULD BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN CHINESE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY AND INTERESTED JAPANESE BUSINESSES, EITHER UNDER AEGIS OF EXISTING JAPAN-CHINA ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION OR IN SMALLER GROUPING SPECIFICALLY SET UP FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. IKEDA STATED THAT ACCORDING TO REPORT TO FONOFF FROM AMBASSADOR OGAWA WHO HAD ATTENDED APRIL 2 MEETING BETWEEN HUA KUO-FENG AND DOKO HUA HAD EXPRESSED HOPE IN LOW-KEY MANNER FOR EARLY CONCLUSION OF PFT, BUT HAD NOT MENTIONED ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE SPECIFICALLY NOR CONVEYED ANY SENSE OF URGENCY ON ISSUE TO HIS JAPANESE VISITORS. ATTRIBUTING CHINESE ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES TO GANG OF FOUR MACHINATIONS AND NATURAL DISASTERS, HUA TOOK SPECIAL NOTE THAT FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER LI CHIANG HAD BEEN "PREVENTED FROM CARRYING OUT HIS DUTIES" BY GANG OF FOUR'S ATTACKS. CHINA, HE WENT ON, WOULD CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT MAO'S POLICY OF INDEPENDENT AND AUTONOMOUS RECONSTRUCTION, BUT THIS DID NOT PRECLUDE CHINESE INTEREST IN FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY.

4. IKEDA SAID THAT DOKO AND OGAWA HAD FOUND HUA "CONFIDENT IN MANNER" BUT HAD SENSED HE WAS STICKING CLOSELY TO PREPARED TEXT THROUGHOUT. ALTHOUGH QUESTIONED DIRECTLY BY JAPANESE FOR HIS VIEWS ON SINO-US RELATIONS, CONFIDENTIAL

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HUA DELIBERATELY REFRAINED FROM ANY COMMENT.

5. IKEDA NOTED THAT RELATIVE RESPONSIVENESS AND HIGH-LEVEL OF CHINESE RECEPTION OF DOKO MISSION HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY FLATTERING TO JAPANESE -- ESPECIALLY WHEN CONTRASTED WITH UNUSUALLY BRUSQUE SOVIET BEHAVIOR DURING CURRENT FISHING NEGOTIATIONS. HE ASSUMED CHINESE HAD NOT BEEN UNAWARE OF THIS POSSIBLE CONTRAST OR THAT RELATIVE SUCCESS OF DOKO MISSION WOULD STRENGTHEN VOICES IN JAPAN CALLING FOR RAPID CONCLUSION OF PFT.

6. COMMENT: RESULTS OF DOKO MISSION HAVE NOT ESCAPED NOTICE OF LOCAL SOVIET EMBASSY EITHER. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF APRIL 6, POLCOUNS KOMAROVSKY NOTED THAT DURING 1976 VISIT TO MOSCOW ON SIMILAR BUSINESS MISSION, DOKO HAD TURNED ASIDE SOVIET OFFERS OF LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AGREEMENT. COMPARISON WOULD BE NOTED IN MOSCOW -WITHOUT ENTHUSIASM," HE CONCLUDED. END COMMENT.
SHOESMITH

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